

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE, TECHNOLOGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Voting Members:

Carol Fukunaga, Chair; Joey Manahan, Vice-Chair;
Ron Menor, Kymberly Marcos Pine, Heidi Tsuneyoshi

Committee Meeting Held
February 26, 2019

Honorable Ann H. Kobayashi
Chair, City Council
City and County of Honolulu

Madam Chair:

Your Committee on Public Infrastructure, Technology and Sustainability, which considered Resolution 19-20 entitled:

"RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII TO PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR KAMEHAMEHA HIGHWAY ON THE ISLAND OF OAHU FROM KAHALUU TO SUNSET BEACH DUE TO DAMAGE TO THE ROADWAY AND BRIDGES CAUSED BY SEVERE COASTAL EROSION,"

introduced on February 5, 2019, reports as follows:

The purpose of the Resolution is to request the Governor of the State of Hawaii to proclaim a state of emergency for Kamehameha Highway on the island of Oahu from Kahaluu to Sunset Beach due to damage to roadways and bridges caused by severe coastal erosion.

The Executive Director and Chief Resilience Officer of the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency ("CCSR") testified in support of the Resolution, explaining the importance of this Resolution to begin the discussion with other stakeholders on the vulnerability of the City's infrastructure to the effects of climate change. Classifying the climate crisis as an emergency, CCSR cautioned about additional stress, as well as the impact of major events, that threatens one of the most vulnerable assets on the island.

CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

ADOPTED ON

MAR 8 2019

COMMITTEE REPORT NO.

58

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Finding that Kamehameha Highway is a critically important transportation asset, CCSR stated in its written testimony, that due to a lack of alternative paths to workplace and homes in the area, "a single highway disruption could have much greater impacts on access and mobility for communities all along our north and windward shores." CCSR also stated that it "continues to be concerned about the severe impacts a major storm, as well as continued sea level rise and coastal erosion, are likely to have on our transportation infrastructure."

Your Committee received comments from one individual.

CCSR informed your Committee that, in the coming year, it will be conducting a climate adaptation study and a vulnerability assessment on Oahu's infrastructure. Your Committee welcomes this work to assist the City in addressing the impacts of climate change and building greater resilience among our coastal communities.

Your Committee on Public Infrastructure, Technology and Sustainability is in accord with the intent and purpose of Resolution 19-20 and recommends its adoption. (Ayes: Fukunaga, Menor, Tsuneyoshi – 3; Noes: None; Excused: Manahan, Pine – 2.)

Respectfully submitted,



Committee Chair

At the 3/8/19 Council meeting, the Resolution was amended and subsequently adopted as Resolution 19-20, FD1.

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